

Treva Gudger

THE 89<sup>TH</sup> CHURCH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE  
PROUDLY PRESENTS  
THE

**\*\*SOLO SENSATIONAL\*\***

'89 YEARS OF SERVICE - WE MOVE ON'



FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH  
NOVEMBER 13, 1983  
3:30 P.M.

# FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY

1894 - 1983

NOVEMBER IS AN EVENTFUL AND SIGNIFICANT MONTH FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, WHERE THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IS ALWAYS AWAITED WITH ANTICIPATION, A CELEBRATION WHERE MUCH ACTIVITY IS PLANNED FOR ALL MEMBERS AND THE COMMUNITY.

IT WAS IN 1894, THAT A SMALL GROUP OF BAPTIST BELIEVERS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE REV. C.W. MCGEE, MET IN THE WAREHOUSE OF DOUGHTY-STEVENS ON DEPOT STREET TO ORGANIZE THE FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH. WORSHIP SERVICES WERE HELD IN THE WAREHOUSE FOR SOME TIME.

THE REV. FARMER FOLLOWED REV. MCGEE AND MOVED THE CONGREGATION TO A LITTLE HOUSE ON RAILROAD STREET, WHICH WAS SOON ENLARGED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE GROWING MEMBERSHIP. UNDER REV. FARMER'S LEADERSHIP, THE FIRST PARSONAGE WAS BUILT NEAR THE CHURCH SITE.

OTHER MINISTERS TO SERVE THE CHURCH AT THE RAILROAD STREET LOCATION INCLUDED REV. SNOW, NATHANIEL LOLLIVER, A.R. THOMPSON, J.B. THOMPSON, AND J.M. THOMPSON. THE THREE THOMPSONS WERE BROTHERS. THE CHURCH WAS REMODELED UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF REV. J.M. THOMPSON, WHO SERVED AS PASTOR UNTIL HIS DEATH.

IN 1925, THE REV. H.J. BAILEY ACCEPTED THE PASTORATE AND SERVED UNTIL 1928. THE REV. W.H. STOKELY OF SOUTH LYNCHBURG, VA., CAME AS PASTOR IN 1928. HE WAS AN ENERGETIC YOUNG MAN WHO SAW THAT THE GROWING MEMBERSHIP NEEDED A LARGER BUILDING.

THROUGH THE POWER OF GOD AND THE WORK OF THE MEMBERS AND MANY CITIZENS OF THE COMMUNITY, THE DREAM OF A NEW CHURCH BECAME A REALITY IN 1934. IT WAS THEN THAT THE CONGREGATION MOVED INTO THE PRESENT STRUCTURE WHICH SURELY STANDS AS A MONUMENT TO REV. STOKELY WHO LABORED HERE FOR NEARLY 18 YEARS.

THE REV. G.ALLEN BOYD OF PINK HILL, N.C., FOLLOWED REV. STOKELY. THE CHURCH PROGRESSED FINANCIALLY AND IMPROVEMENTS WERE MADE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF MODERN DEVELOPMENT DURING REV. BOYD'S PASTORATE, INCLUDING THE PURCHASE AND RENOVATION OF ANOTHER PARSONAGE. THIS WAS THE SITE WHERE THE PRESENT PARSONAGE STANDS.

IN 1951, THE REV. W.C. MORRISON OF LOUISIANA, CAME AS PASTOR. HE PLACED MAJOR EMPHASIS ON A JUNIOR CHURCH AND OTHER OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS WERE MADE DURING HIS PASTORATE.

THE REV. R.L. ADDISON SERVED THE CHURCH FOR A VERY BRIEF PERIOD.

IN 1956, THE REV. C.C. MILLS OF JEFFERSON CITY, ACCEPTED THE PASTORATE. UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP, THE CHURCH IS STILL PROGRESSING SPIRITUALLY AND FINANCIALLY AND MANY MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

IN 1963, THE PRESENT PARSONAGE WAS CONSTRUCTED AT A COST OF \$30,000 (A DEBT WHICH WAS PAID IN FULL SIX YEARS LATER).



A DISASTER TO BE LONG REMEMBERED WAS THE FIRE THAT ALMOST DESTROYED THE CHURCH IN FEBRUARY OF 1958. HARD WORK BY THE MEMBERS AND EFFICIENT GUIDANCE BY REV. MILLS SOON RESTORED THE BUILDING.

IN DECEMBER, 1980, GROUND WAS BROKEN FOR A NEW ADDITION TO HOUSE THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. IT WAS COMPLETED IN EARLY SPRING THE FOLLOWING YEAR. THE SANCTUARY WAS ALSO ENLARGED AND COMPLETELY RENOVATED. A NEW BAPTISTRY WAS INSTALLED AND A RAMP WAS BUILT TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL MEMBERS AND VISITORS. OTHER BEAUTIFICATION MEASURES WERE ALSO MADE. IN LESS THAN THREE (3) YEARS, OCT. 31, 1983, THE \$72,000 INDEBTNESS ON THIS PROJECT WAS PAID IN FULL.

IN THE SPRING OF THIS YEAR, THE PARKING LOT ADJACENT TO THE CHURCH WAS REPAVED AT A COST OF \$2,500.

IT HAS INDEED BEEN A TIME OF CELEBRATION AND REJOICING, PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING FOR US WHEN WE LOOK BACK AT THE JOURNEY FROM THE DARK WAREHOUSE TO OUR PRESENT EDIFICE. THE STRUGGLES HAVE BEEN MANY AND THE HARDSHIPS GREAT, ESPECIALLY FOR THE PIONEERS OF THE CHURCH WHO PAVED THE WAY FOR THE SUCCESS THE CHURCH HAS ATTAINED THROUGH THE YEARS. TO GOD, AND TO THE LOYAL AND TRUE MEMBERS, PAST AND PRESENT WE OWE A GREAT DEBT OF GRATITUDE.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

THE 89TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY  
COMMITTEE

Mrs. TREVA GUDGER - CHAIR PERSON

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Mrs. SYLVIA BOWERS  
Mrs. HELEN KNUCKLES  
Mrs. ELIZABETH MILLS

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mrs. CLARENE LOLLAR  
Mrs. JOY GUDGER  
Mrs. CLARA JONES

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE:

Mrs. EMMA EDMONDS  
Mrs. JOANN GUDGER  
Mrs. JOANNA SHIPE

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:

Mrs. JOYCE DENNIS  
Ms. MARY PRICE





39TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

SEATED LEFT TO RIGHT: TREVA GUDGER (CHAIRPERSON), ELIZABETH MILLS,  
JOANN GUDGER, MARY PRICE, JOANNA SHIPE

2ND ROW: CLARENE LOLLAR, SYLVIA BOWERS, JOY GUDGER, CLARA JONES

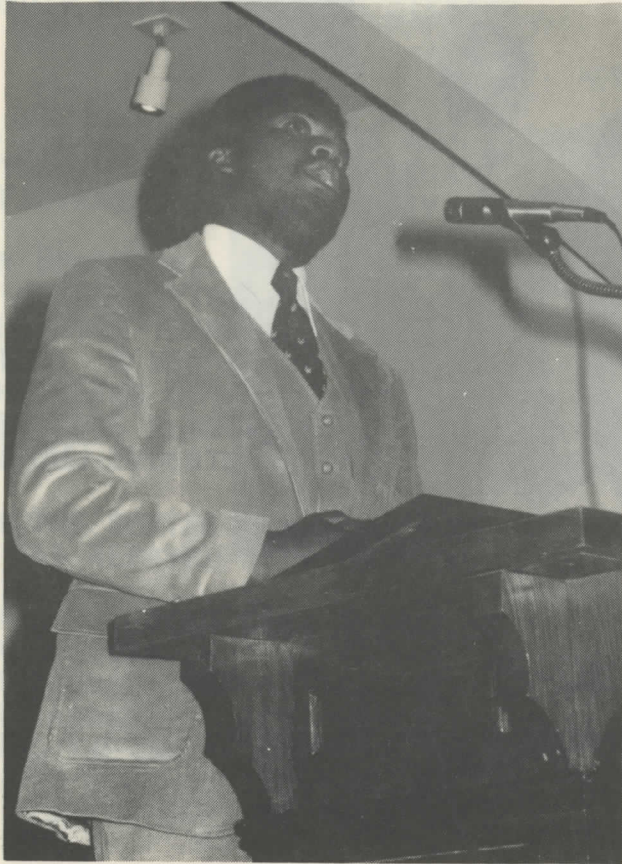
NOT PICTURED: EMMA EDMONDS, JOYCE DENNIS, HELEN KNUCKLES



REV. & MRS. C.C. MILLS, SR.

PASTOR & FIRST LADY  
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH





MR. CLETUS MILLER  
REPRESENTING. . .  
MILLERS CHAPEL  
BAILEYTON, TN



MS. CAROLYN GUDGER  
REPRESENTING. . .  
BRAINARD CHAPEL 7TH DAY  
ADVENTIST CHURCH  
GREENEVILLE, TN





MRS. EMMA EDMONDS  
REPRESENTING, . . .  
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH  
GREENEVILLE, TN

